

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 039009 TOSEC 020164  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY: ARA/CCA:CGLEESTEEN  
APPROVED BY: ARA:WHLUERS  
P:DTICE  
S/S:SESTEINER  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION: S, D, P, ARA ONLY  
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P 200014Z FEB 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 039009 TOSEC 020164

NODIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (DTG SHOULD READ 200014Z VICE  
300014Z)

FOR HABIB FROM LUERS

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PFOR CU SZ

SUBJECT: YOUR FEBRUARY 22 MEETING WITH SERRA

BACKGROUND

AMBASSADOR SERRA HAS BEEN IN HAVANA TWO YEARS. PRIOR  
ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDED AMBASSADOR IN PEKING AND CHEF DE  
PROTOCOL IN BERN. IN HAVANA HE HAS REPRESENTED OUR  
INTERESTS EFFECTIVELY BUT HAS NOT SENT US POLITICAL  
ASSESSMENTS AS DID HIS PRECECESSOR. MOST OF THE BUSINESS  
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WE CONDUCT THROUGH THE SWISS INVOLVES AMCITS WHO CANNOT  
OR DO NOT WISH TO LEAVE CUBA, NARCOTICS SMUGGLERS, STRANDED  
AMERICAN YACHTS, AND AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS. OUR MAIN INTEREST  
IS TO GET SERRA TO GIVE US HIS CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF CUBAN  
FOREIGN POLICY AS SEEN BY WESTERN DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND TO  
INVITE COMMENTS ABOUT HIS PRESENT AND FUTURE RELATIONSHIP  
WITH THE DEPARTMENT. SERRA WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY

AMBASSADOR PROBST AND MINISTER HOHL. TODMAN AND GLEYSTEN  
WILL COME FROM 8RA.

TALKING POINTS:

-- WE HAVE INDICATED OUR INTEREST IN BILATERAL TALKS  
ON FISHERY ISSUES AND HIJACKING. FIDEL HAS TOLD BINGHAM

AND OTHER AMERICAN VISITORS HE WILL NOT TALK ABOUT  
HIJACKING UNTIL WE HAVE LIFTED THE EMBARGO BUT HAS NOT  
EXCLUDED SECRET TALKS.

-- WE ARE STILL CONSIDERING THE FRAMEWORK FOR  
DISCUSSING OUTSTANDING ISSUES WITH CUBA AND ALREADY HAVE  
SENT A NOTE (FEBRUARY 19) THROUGH SERRA OUTLINING OUR  
POSITION ON FISHERY ISSUES AND SAYING WE WOULD BE IN  
TOUCH WITH CUBA SOON ABOUT PLACE AND FRAMEWORK FOR  
THESE DISCUSSIONS.

-- ANY POSSIBLE DIALOGUE WITH CUBA IS LIKELY TO  
BE LONG DIFFICULT AND WE SHALL BE RELYING ON SWISS  
TO CARRY THE DAY--TO--DAY BURDEN OF OUR RELATIONS FOR  
SOME TIME TO COME.

-- WE SHALL TRY TO KEEP SERRA CLUED IN ON ASPECTS  
OF POSSIBLE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS THAT AFFECT SWISS  
REPRESENTATION OF OUR INTERESTS IN HAVANA AND WOULD  
WELCOME HIS COMMENTS ON LIAISON WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

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-- ASK FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CURRENT STATE OF US  
CHANCERY AND RESIDENCE IN HAVANA.

-- REQUEST GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT DIPLOMATIC LIFE  
IN HAVANA AND SERRA'S OWN ASSESSMENT OF CUBAN ECONOMIC  
TROUBLES AND FOREIGN POLICY, PARTICULARLY CASTRO'S  
POSTURE OF TRYING TO GET OFF TO A NEW START IN RELATIONS  
WITH THE US.  
HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE039009  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA/CCA:CGLEYSTEN  
**Enclosure:** CORRECTED COPY (DTG SHOULD READ 200014Z VICE 300014Z)  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, ODIP, SZ, US, CU  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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